

Andrew Jackson to Robert Hays, March 6, 1815, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

¹ See vol. II., p. 170 n.

Headquarters 7th Military District, New Orleans, March 6, 1815.

Sir, An express reached me to day with dispatches from the war department, from the post masters letter accompanying the express, it was believed before the dispatch was opened, that it contained the pleasing news of peace. Judge my surprise when I opened the package, and found it a letter from the Secretary of war of the 13th February with two acts of congress enclosed directing me to have enlisted and commissioned under the acts Two regiments, for the defence of the 7th M District—how this has happened, it is difficult to account. from the information of the express rider, I am induced to believe, that the treaty is ratified, and the Government intended forwarding it by this express, but sent on the letter of the 13th ult, instructing me to recruit. this Blunder, if Blunder it is, will cost the u states about twenty thousand dollars pr day, and how long it may be untill we receive the official account of the ratification of the treaty I cannot say. I get about every month a communication from the Department. I shall soon be with you after the anounciation of peace. alls well, adieu.